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VACAVALLEY RADIO CLUB

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VACAVILLE , CALIFORNIA **September 2016**

President's message

Date: Aug 21, 2016 1:30 PM

Well, summer is drawing to a close although the end isn't quite here yet given the daytime temperatures, but nonetheless, fall and then winter will be here sooner than you know. That being said, take a few moments to make sure what shack hardware you have up on your QTH roof is in good shape and is secure. And don't forget to check the coax's condition as well. Nothing is worse when the hardware, coax or the end connectors fail at a crucial moment and making repairs can't happen at the moment because of a rain storm that is stuck in your area for a few days. So be careful atop your QTH or in climbing the tower. Try and not do any of this by yourself if possible. If a tower is involved, make sure you have & wear a harness BEFORE you climb the tower Have a buddy there with you to help out with anything involving a tower!

For those of you, who subscribe to the Vacaville Reporter, check the newspaper for a soon-to-be published article. I'm not going to tell you what it is because the surprise of the article being in the newspaper won't be a surprise, right? I want to thank those club members who were instrumental in securing the Nut Tree Airport for this year's Field Day event because without the efforts by those club members, our Field Day event would have been held somewhere, but not likely visible to the general public! I had hoped to attend this year's event, but I wasn't able to. And of course if one was to factor in the extreme heat that was blatantly in place for the event, I stayed "holed" up in my QTH for the duration of the extreme heat that this area found itself having. But I have an idea for future events for those participating club members to remain decently cool in such heat!!

In moving forward with this radio club, little by little the club is seeing new members joining and I would like to see this club involving itself in worthwhile radio related projects such as more involvement in the community, fox hunts, license study classes, exam testing sessions and special events which would convey to those new members and the current membership that this radio club can be the type of club anyone is proud of. A lot of clubs in other parts of the USA have quite a bit of activity within its membership as far as to the community is concerned. This club is moving in the right direction and I would like to see that increased a little with each new year.

. As for the club meetings, we currently have presentations set up for September, October and November. The latter will be a live OTA demonstration that will make good use of the 60" monitor our club meeting has at its disposal. So be sure to attend the monthly club meetings so you can benefit from the presentation content and to know what is going on with the club activities. In October, it will be the time to make your nomination for the club's management positions which are: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Sergeant-at-Arms and the four B.O.D. positions. This club presently does not have a Sergeant-at-Arms which is a position that I would like to see filled each and every year if that is possible and doable. Also, the club officers are looking at having a designated member be the greeter for each club meeting. Please take note of these two positions. The Sergeant-at-Arms would be an elected position whereas the greeter would be an appointed position providing of course that the member would be willing to assume the position.

Take the time between now and the club meeting in October to figure out who you want to nominate for the mentioned positions so that at the October club meeting, your selection(s) can be heard and duly recorded. At the November club meeting, the election process will be instituted and followed in accordance to the Vaca Valley

President's message Contined 0n Page-2

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Visit the Repeater online courtesy of Bob K6HEW at: w6vvr

Club repeater in Vacaville:w6vvr.net 145.470 MHz(-) pl 127.3 The W6VVR net call is Tuesday evenings at 8pm on the club repeater. All are invited to participate in this weekly meeting on the air. 73!

Additional local repeater
WV6F 440.025(+)

THE VVRC WELCOMES YOU

The Vaca Valley Radio Club has proudly served the Northern Solano County Area since 1988. We pride ourselves in providing a friendly place for radio amateurs to meet and improve their operating skills.

We participate in public service events throughout the year and are always ready to assist with communications during times of emergency.

Browseour website for more information about our club. If you have any questions please e-mail us at w6vvr@w6vvr.net or call 707-448-5665 for assistance

The Repeater is Published by the Vaca Valley Radio Club, PO Box 143, Elmira, CA 95625-0143, An ARRL Affiliated Club. Founded 1987, Chartered 1988. General Meetings: 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM 330 Nut Tree Road, (Nut Tree Airport)

Wheelchair accessible

2016 Officers

President: Marcus MacLean-KI6WDX
VP: Frank Garay-KJ6RWQ
Treasurer: Bob Hewitt-K6HEW
Secretary: Brian Hagen-KK6BXP

Board of Directors:
Brian Hagen-KK6BXP
Ruff Gunn-K6DME
Antonio Del Rio-N6ZGB
Richard Craig-KJ6MIB
Artthur Miller-KI6UXE

APPOINTED POSITIONS
VVRC Net Control Chairperson
Club Activities Chairperson-Frank Garay-KJ6RWQ
Newsletter Editor-Jerry Bowen, KJ6SCC
Newsletter Publisher & Distributor-Bob Hewitt, K6HEW

W6VVR at the Vacaville Farmer's Market

We did it thanks to the efforts to get a space at the Vacaville Farmer's Market by Frank, KJ6RWQ and the able support of the club's members.

August 6, at 0600 arrived early for the work crew members, Frank, KJ6RWQ; Bob, KM6BXZ; Art, KI6UXE; Kim, KI6JNX; and Jerry, KJ6SCC who set up the tent and displays in plenty of time for the official opening for the day.

We were located next to the Teachers Union that expressed an interest in educational items that would be useful for the younger folks. It turned out that the Union even had a small booklet about DeForest's life and shared a copy with the club.

Other members showed up to later. Some worked with the public that showed a lot of interest in what we do. One young man was particularly interested and planned on becoming a "Ham." A new member, Frank; KK6YCS signed up as a member during the day. Welcome Frank!

Others operated their portables away from the scene as far as the Pena Adobe so the public could try their luck at communicating over the radio.

All in all, it was a very successful operation. The members that participated deserve a big pat on the back with a job well done.

See photos on the right taken by Frank, KJ6RWQ.

President's message Contined from pg-1

Radio Club constitution by-laws. If you are unsure what I'm referring to, please take a few moments to review the VVRC's by-laws from our club's website: www.w6vvr.net

In closing, I would like to remind every club member to please wear your name badge to each club meeting so that everyone knows who you are. A lot of us know the other ham or member because we see each other quite a bit. But that's not always the situation with the new joining members, new members and other club members. The name badge is quite helpful to everyone! And remember that the club meeting is open to any amateur radio operator who is not a member of this club as well as anyone expressing a desire to become an amateur radio operator.

7 3 Marcus Maclean,
Pres.KI6WDX

VVRC Set Up Crew At the Farmers Market-L to R=Kim, KI6JNX; Frank, KJ6RWQ; Art, KI6UXE; Bob, KK6BXZ; Jerry, KJ6SCC

Waiting for the throngs of potential hams to show up

Hey Dad. I wanto be a Ham Operator; This is cool!

Can I talk to the Space Station?

Still Waiting!

PAGE 12—THE VACAVILLE REPORTER, FRIDAY, Sept. 14, '56

Local Amateur Radio Club Holds Inaugural Meeting

The local amateur radio club, the Vacaville Volts and Verticals, held its inaugural meeting last Saturday evening at the home of Alan Thiele.

The newly organized club has defined its aims as follows: to stimulate interest in amateur radio, to better public relations, to provide worthwhile recreation for its members, and to become a link in the nation-wide Civil Defense communications system, so valuable in time of disaster.

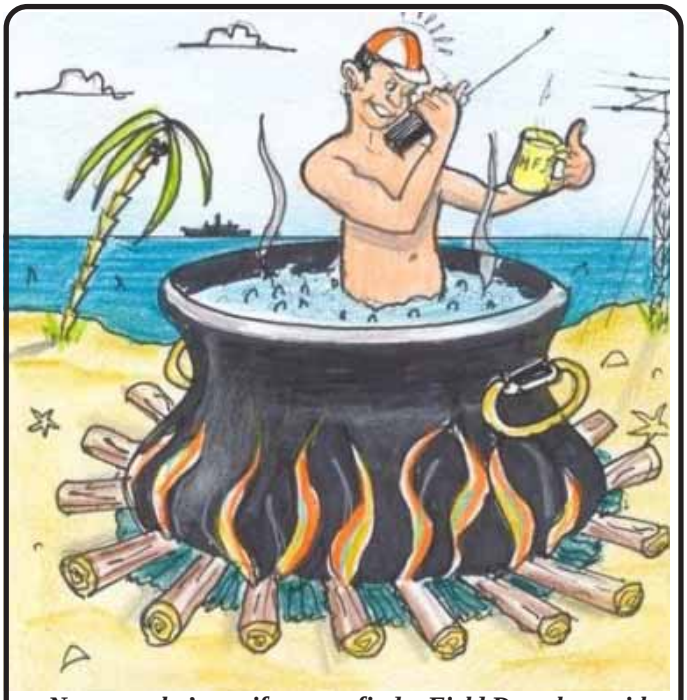
The following were in attendance and officers were elected for the ensuing six-month period: Dennis Newton, president; Alan Thiele, Secretary - Treasurer; Al Anderson, Edmund Miller, Dwane Caplener, and Bill Pyle.

It is expected that the membership will expand as genuinely interested prospective members are contacted.

Washing and Polishing. Beelard & Burton, phone 2100.

Here's an article from the September 14, 1956 Vacaville Reporter Newspaper about an early Vacaville Ham Radio Club.

Anybody remember what happened to it or was this a forerunner of the VacaValley Radio Club?



Next year let's see if we can find a Field Day place with cooler conditions for Field Day!

REMEMBER

Meetings at the Nut Tree Airport will resume September 8 at 7 pm

A Look At bizarre Ham Radio

PPHHHHT, I'll Stick to my Backpack Qitty QRP Radio!

THE BIT BUCKET

HAMVENTION MOVES

Good-Bye, Hara Arena! Dayton Hamvention Headed for Xenia in 2017

"X" marks the spot! After 52 years at Hara Arena and its entire 64-year history in the Greater Dayton area, Hamvention® announced on August 1 that it would relocate to the Greene County Fairgrounds in Xenia, Ohio. The new venue is about 16 miles east of downtown Dayton off US Route 35 and north of Xenia. On June 29, the Amateur Radio community was stunned to learn that Hara Arena would shut down at the end of August, leaving Hamvention homeless — at least until this week's big reveal.

Hamvention spokesperson Mike Kalter, W8CI, speaks at the August 1 announcement. [Courtesy of Jeff Davis, KE9V]

THE DOCTOR IS IN

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The Doctor is In

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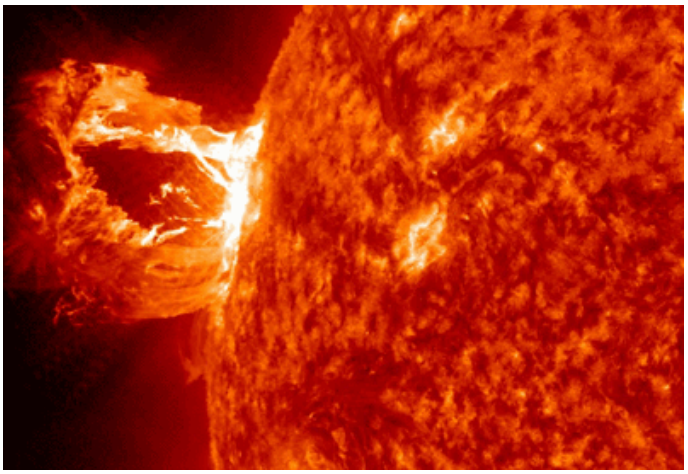
If you've never listened to a podcast before, download our beginner's guide. Coming up next: "SWR."

Solar flares-Experts rely on wave

Times of India News ; Aug 3, 2016, 05.28 PM IST



Scientists believe that the finding of the emergence of sun spots can help them develop a method to predict solar flares.

Non-uniform, twisted magnetic energy from sun takes scientists closer to prediction of sun storms

While the night of September 1, 1856 sent shock waves among telegraphers after telegraph systems went haywire across the world a few hours after English astronomer Richard Carrington recorded the 'first and largest' solar flare to have struck the planet, it led to a series of researches attempting to study and predict

Continued on Pg 6

these solar storms.

Astrophysicists the world over believe that the magnetic field in the Sun organise as uni formly twisted cylindrical tubes of magnetic energy that well up to the visible surface of the star as sunspots before ejecting flares.

` But a team from Indian Institute of Astrophysics and University of Oslo, Norway has found, through a numerical model, these fluxes can have non-uniform twist.

Scientists believe that the finding of the emergence of sun spots can help them develop a method to predict these solar flares, as they often occur above the sunspots. Developing a method to predict solar flares is important as it often disrupts space communication systems the world rely on.

Solar flares release magnetic energy in the form of heat, solar magnetic particles, x-rays and gamma rays. They can affect anything from terrestrial radars to satellite and mobile communications, GPS signals, flight rerouting and communications.

According to the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the total cost of X class solar flare, the biggest type of flare, hitting the earth can be as high as $1 trillion. The magnitude of the energy is as huge as the energy delivered by the impact of a 10-km-wide asteroid.

For the study, researchers picked 'delta' sunspots, one of the four categories of sunspots, as they contribute more than 95% of the most intense solar flares, which releases x-rays though they constitute less than 25% of all the sunspots seen dur ing the sun's 11-year solar cycle.

The team carried out numerical simulations on super computers to study how the flux tubes pass through the sun's turbulent interior and rise to the surface resulting in a sunspot.

Lead scientist of the study Piyali Chatterjee said that delta sunspots have a complex magnetic topology. "Magnetic polarity (positive and negative) spots lying very close to each other in the umbra surrounded by a single penumbra increases magnetic tension in the region. 95% of the exotic x rays we receive from the sun comes from such regions," she said. With the numerical simulations, scientists fed suitable initial conditions like pressure, density and an estimate of the initial magnetic field, which was as simple as a horizontal magnetised sheet. The simulation produced several flares with energies similar to those observed for moderate flares in our sun.

Scientists said in future, simulations such as these can be used to provide an estimate of maximum flare energy that our sun can ever produce. "Ours is the first study, which has produced flares with energies observed in the real sun," said Chatterjee. However, the amount of free energy available for any given sunspot region for such energetic eruptions is a trillion dollar question.

Want a name badge that will grab attention?

I found this at a local business. It will scroll up to 250 characters at four different selectable speeds. It can also be purchased in three different colors and brightness levels. Six different selectable messages can also be selected at the press of a button on the back.

The only drawback it was pretty expensive to buy it at the local business and can probably be found at a lower cost on the WEB.

Jerry, KJ6SCC

NET CONTROL OPERATORS

1st week of month-Jerry Bowen, KJ6SCC
2nd week of month-Marcus MacLean, KI6WDX
3rd week of month-Chris Jones, KD7TQO
4th week of month-Brian Hagen, KK6BXP
On months with 5 weeks-Bob Hewitt, K6HEW

Now Free of HAARP, US Air Force Still Wants to Tinker with the Ionosphere

A lot of radio amateurs bemoaning the recent spate of poor HF conditions would love to have a way to improve propagation — perhaps without even having to rely on the whims of the Sun. The US Department of Defense has been thinking along the same lines. An August 9 article in *New Scientist* reports that the US Air Force is exploring a plan to bombard Earth's upper atmosphere with ionized gas dispersed from CubeSats. According to the *New Scientist* article by David Hambling, the Air Force hopes to improve long-distance radio communication by "detonating plasma bombs" in the upper atmosphere, and the military branch has contracted with corporate and university researchers to figure out how to make this a reality.

The US Air Force is no stranger to ionospheric tinkering, having just last year transferred the High Frequency Active Auroral Research Project (HAARP) facility to the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF), which hopes to restart it next year. HAARP's super-power RF in the high-frequency spectrum has been used to stimulate the ionosphere and create a plasma cloud that could support HF radio propagation; it also has been used to study how the ionosphere functions.

The trick with using CubeSats to disperse ionizing gas above Earth is coming up with a plasma generator small enough to fit within a CubeSat, and controlling how the plasma will disperse. *New Scientist* said General Sciences of Souderton, Pennsylvania, and Enig Associates of Bethesda, Maryland, are working with scientists at Drexel University and at the University of Maryland, respectively, on separate methods to produce plasma.

The *New Scientist* article said the better approach will be selected for a second phase, which will involve testing plasma generators in vacuum chambers and exploratory space flights.

Please join us again this year for Pacificon 2016!

It's just 2 months away! Save $5 by registering now!

NEW: To see what Pacificon 2016 is all about, and to see what you don't want to miss, please see the video produced by Randy Hall, K7AGE: PACIFICON Video

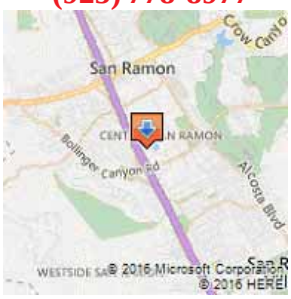
The Pacificon 2016 Team has been working very hard to bring you the very best Pacificon that we can. The location will once again be at the San Ramon Marriott located in San Ramon, California. We have been working tirelessly to provide you with some of the finest forum speakers and demonstrations of amateur radio gear and technology.

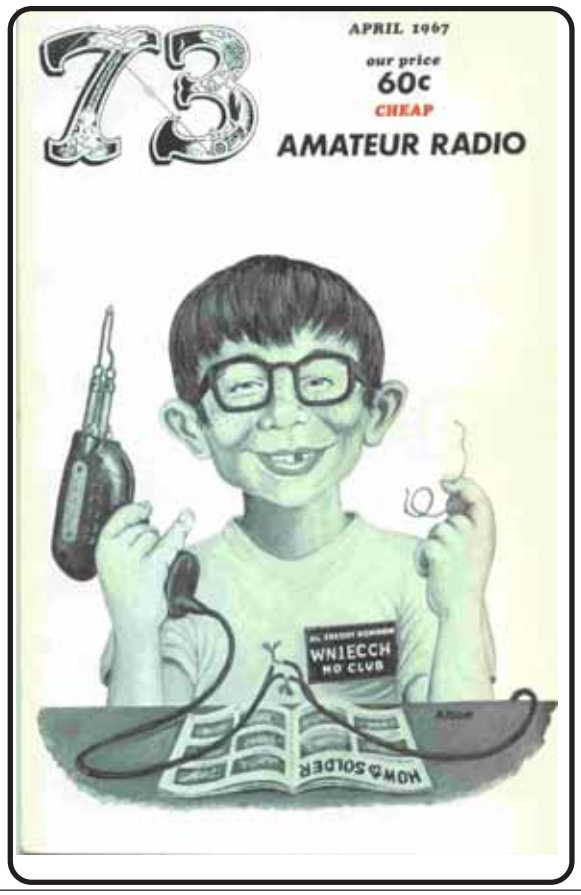
If you are interested in expanding your knowledge in just about any area of ham radio - Pacificon 2016 is the place you have to go. This year's theme is "Looking Into the Future of Amateur Radio." Please click on the link below to register for this time honored, but always unique event!

Register Now!

PACIFICON 2016 WEBSITEI can't make itIf you have any questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are here for you. Thank you so much for taking the time to read this. We sure look forward to seeing you at Pacificon 2016.

Sincerely, Debbie DeeblePACIFICON 2016 Registration Chairregistration@pacificon.org (925) 778-8977





REMEMBER

Meetings at the Nut Tree Airport Will Resume September 8 at 7 pm

Note: Check out the bottom of the application for a good news change!

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

VACAVALLEY RADIO CLUB, INC.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

Please Print & Fill in Completely

Name: _____ Call Sign_____

Street: _____

City: _____Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____-_____OK to Publish? (_____)

License Class: _____ ARRL Member? (_____)

E-Mail Address_____

FAMILY Member (Spouse or Children)

Name: _____ Call Sign_____

License Class: _____ARRL Member ? (_____)

Name: _____ Call Sign_____

License Class: _____ARRL Member ? (_____)

MEMBER Dues	$25.00	_____
Each Family Member	$ 2.00	_____
Student	$ 5.00	_____
Repeater/Autopatch donation		_____
Check #_____		_____
Paid by CASH: (Yes) (No)		_____
DATE _____		
TOTAL		_____

NOTE: A free club ID badge will be issued with new memberships. Please indicate that you wish to have your first name or a nick-name on the badge: Example-First name is Franklin-Nickname could be Frank or another choice.

Mail to : Vaca Valley Radio Club, PO Box 143, Elmira, CA 95625-0143